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*A death from plague at Constantinople.*BERLIN, GERMANY, *January 11, 1901.*

[Clipping from the Berliner Tageblatt, Friday, January 11, 1901. Sent by Passed Asst. Surg. J. B. Greene.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, *January 10.*

[Report of the Vienna Royal Telegraphic Correspondence Bureau.]

The person who died yesterday of plague is a 40-year-old boatman, who was taken sick eight days ago and was lying ill in the hospital of the medical school in Stambul. The supreme sanitary council has ordered the medical inspection of all the surrounding districts. Other preventive measures have also been taken. The effects of the dead man have been burned and a cordon placed around the infected premises.

JAPAN.

*Plague and dysentery.*YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, *December 22, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to notify you that, since the date of my last report, December 13, so far as I am informed, 1 case of plague has occurred in Osaka, and 3 cases have appeared in Wakayama Ken.

In view of the extension of area and persistence of the epidemic, the authorities of Yokohama have renewed the attack on rats, paying, as before, 5 sen, or 2½ cents gold, for each dead rodent, and quite a large number have already been destroyed.

A conference of sanitary officials, sitting in Tokyo, have decided that "As no relation whatever exists between the pest and the oranges from Wakayama prefecture, both dealers in oranges and other people may freely sell and buy them without any anxiety."

I have, nevertheless, considered it wiser to maintain the prohibition of the shipment of Wakayama fruit.

I am in a position to state that, from the outbreak of dysentery this year, to the 10th instant, there have been 43,906 cases reported, of which 9,929 resulted in death. It will be observed that the epidemic has been decidedly less severe during 1900 than for several years immediately preceding.

Respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

NOTE.—Dr. Eldridge has been directed by cable to remove the prohibition on oranges.

TURKEY.

Report from Constantinople.

[Report No. 287.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, *December 29, 1900.**The sanitary board of Turkey and quarantines against plague.*

SIR: After five weeks of interruption of the sittings of the international sanitary board in consequence of the appointment of a custom-house official as a member of the superior sanitary council, as already reported under date of December 5, we had two sittings—one extra-

ordinary last week and a second the day before yesterday, the 26th instant, by which we thought we could be able to resume our ordinary meetings. In the extraordinary sitting of last week the forty eight hours' quarantine with disinfection of the wearing apparel of the passengers and the crew as well as of the ships coming from Alexandria was abolished. Yesterday's sitting was interrupted because in spite of the rights of said council, rights conferred on it by special conventions and treaties, the Turkish Government has made a new appointment of a sanitary physician as a sanitary inspector. The sanitary representatives of the foreign Governments have declared that they could not continue to have a sitting before they refer the question to their chiefs, the ambassadors or ministers. According to the instructions which I have received from Mr. Griscom, the United States chargé d'affaires, I follow my foreign colleagues in an independent way.

The last bubonic plague cases in Alexandria.

On November 11 2 fresh cases had been announced from Alexandria, one of which was a vagrant, and he got well. The second one occurred in the person of the captain of the steamship *Dundee*, sailing between Egypt and Syria. He was fond of cats, and he had 6 cats on board his ship with which he used to play and have them on his knees. Some days before he fell ill several dead rats were found on board said steamship, and 3 of 6 six cats also were found dead. This captain was a victim of bubonic plague, from which, very probably, the rats and cats have died.

Sanitary news from the Turkish provinces.

According to the official sanitary reports public health everywhere in Turkey is good. In Djiddah during the month of August 52 deaths have been registered of which 5 are due to smallpox. I am glad to state that finally the authorities of that town have begun seriously to think about the water question. Last year I laid stress on this question in my reports dated January and February, 1900. According to the last official reports the engineers of the government have been boring into the soil in order to find water and in fact at the depth of 17 meters good water, potable, has been found and in a sufficient quantity to supply to city of Djiddah unless the owners of the water cisterns from which the Djiddah inhabitants have their drinking water will not find any manner whatever by which to prevent the supply of the city by said artesian wells, I think that the Djiddah water question may be considered as settled.

From Dardanelles it is stated that public health is good. During the month of September 12 deaths have been registered; the same number of deaths has been registered for the month of October.

Public health abroad.

The Ottoman sanitary commissioner at Teheran, in Persia, states, under date October 10, that cholera has made its appearance at Cabul, in Afghanistan. The Ottoman consul at Rio de Janeiro, South America, has forwarded to the Ottoman foreign office 2 medical reports written by Dr. Naaman dated July and November of this year on the epidemic of bubonic plague which broke out in Rio de Janeiro. Dr. Naaman states that the epidemic broke out May 21, and was imported from Porto. The greatest number of cases presented buboes, though there have been some rare cases of the pneumonia form. More than 20,000 persons have been submitted to the action of the antiseptic serum and only 3

persons have presented symptoms of plague within the first days of the inoculation. Dr. Naaman states that the surest way of healing bubonic plague is the ablation of the affected ganglion.

Public health in Constantinople.

In Constantinople the sanitary condition is better. The epidemic of scarlet fever is nearly abated, and the cases from said disease are rare. Chicken pox showed a tendency to become epidemic, but there are many days that no fresh cases are met with. On the contrary, influenza has very widely spread, and we owe to the good and mild weather that the number of deaths has not reached the height it reaches in the epidemics of influenza when they are so widely spread as is this one.

The number of deaths registered from the 3d to the 17th instant is 504. Of these, 5 are from diphtheria, 8 from scarlet fever, 12 from typhoid fever, 7 from measles, and 21 from acute inflammation of the respiratory apparatus.

Respectfully,

SPIRIDION C. ZAVITZIANO,
United States Sanitary Commissioner.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Foreign statistical reports of countries and cities—Yearly and monthly.

BRITISH GUIANA—*Demerara—Georgetown.*—Five weeks ended December 1, 1900. Estimated population, 53,176. Total number of deaths, 175, including 3 from diphtheria.

CUBA—*Santiago de Cuba.*—Month of December, 1900. Estimated population, 45,000. Total number of deaths, 64, including diphtheria, 1, and 8 from tuberculosis.

FRANCE—*Marseilles.*—Month of December, 1900. Estimated population, 447,344. Total number of deaths, 1,054, including diphtheria, 27; measles, 2; scarlet fever, 2; whooping cough, 1, and 2 from smallpox.

Roubaix.—Month of December, 1900. Estimated population, 135,269. Total number of deaths, 198, including diphtheria, 2; enteric fever, 3; scarlet fever, 1, and 2 from whooping cough.

GREAT BRITAIN—*England and Wales.*—The deaths registered in 33 great towns in England and Wales during the week ended December 29, 1900, correspond to an annual rate of 16.9 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 11,610,296. The highest rate was recorded in Hull, viz, 23.2, and the lowest in Huddersfield, viz, 9.5.

Bradford.—Two weeks ended December 29, 1900. Estimated population, 291,535. Total number of deaths, 167, including diphtheria, 2; scarlet fever, 6, and 2 from whooping cough.

London.—One thousand four hundred and sixty-six deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 27; scarlet fever, 7; diphtheria, 26; whooping cough, 31; enteric fever, 22, and diarrhea and dysentery, 9. The deaths from all causes correspond to an annual rate of 16.7 a thousand. In Greater London 1,934 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 15.2 a thousand of the popu-